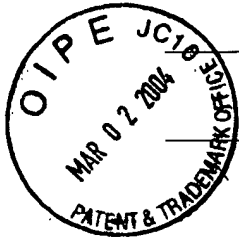


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on



February 27, 2004

Date of Deposit

John G. Rauch, Reg. No. 37,218

Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

Signature

2/27/2004

Date of Signature

**RECEIVED**

MAR 04 2004

Technology Center 2100

Our Case No. 9623/179

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<p>In re Application of:</p> <p>Philip G. Rorex et al.</p> <p>Serial No.: 09/575,894</p> <p>Filing Date: May 22, 2000</p> <p>For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING RELATED SEARCHES IN A DATABASE SEARCH SYSTEM</p>	<p>Examiner: Khanh B. Pham</p> <p>Group Art Unit: 2177</p>
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**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

The references now cited are the following:

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (If known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY
EP 0 813 158 A2	12/17/97	Europe
EP 0 829 811 A1	03/18/98	Europe
WO 99/05618	02/04/99	WIPO

### OTHER ART AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

Search Report from Great Britain for corresponding patent application No. GB 02298482.5, dated November 27, 2003, 3 pages.
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In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention that the enclosed Search Report received from Great Britain lists the reference EP 0996899 A0 for Microsoft Corp. European application numbers ending in A0 are not published or printed as the WIPO equivalent is used, therefore applicants are enclosing a copy of published WIPO application No. WO 99/05618 for Microsoft Corp. in replacement for EP 0996899 A0.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicants hereby certify that each item of the information disclosed in this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

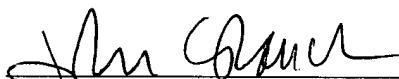
foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report.

No fees are believed to be due with the filing of this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however should any additional fees be deemed necessary under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to the submission of these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 27, 2004



John G. Rauch  
Registration No. 37,218  
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610  
Tel. (312) 321-4200  
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TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No: 9623/179
Serial No. 09/575,894	Filing Date May 22, 2000	Examiner Khanh B. Pham	Group Art Unit 2177
Inventor(s) Philip G. Rorex et al.			3-8-04
Title of Invention METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING RELATED SEARCHES IN A DATABASE SEARCH SYSTEM			

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is: Transmittal Letter (in dup.); Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; P.O. 1449 Form; copies of cited references E1-E4 and return post card.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established.
- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☐ Petition for a \_\_\_\_\_ month extension of time.
- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

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Technology Center 2100

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total		Minus		
Indep.		Minus		
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				

Small Entity

Rate	Add'l Fee
x \$9=	
x 42=	
+\$140	
=	
Total add'l fee	\$

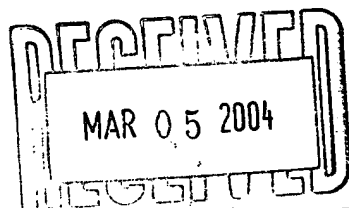
or

Other Than Small Entity

Rate	Add'l Fee
x \$18=	
x \$84=	
+ \$280=	
total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



*John G. Rauch*

John G. Rauch  
Registration No. 37,218  
Attorney for Applicants

Customer No. 00757 - Brinks Hofer Gilson Lione

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. BOX 10395  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 - (312) 321-4200

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Date: 2/27/04 Signature: *John G. Rauch*